

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

OCTOBER 6, 2009

**Setting SSI Performance Benchmarks and Renaming the GR Program**

As the Board of Supervisors is presented with a framework to reform the General Relief (GR) program there must be more specific goals to guide these reforms. Currently the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) operates the Supplemental Security Income and Medi-Cal Advocacy Program (SSIMAP), providing advocacy services to help GR participants with physical or mental disabilities apply and obtain approval for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The current GR SSIMAP caseload is approximately 10,000, and in FY 08-09, approximately 5,500 GR participants transitioned to Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The success rate of the GR SSIMAP is approximately 50%.

Other jurisdictions have a much higher GR-to-SSI transfer rate. Notably, the City and County of San Francisco has a successful advocacy program, which has an SSI approval rate of over 90%.

**-MORE-**

**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Director of DPSS, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Health Services, and report back in two weeks with:

- 1) Proposed GR-to-SSI enrollment targets;
- 2) A plan to evaluate and report back quarterly to the Board on the progress in meeting those targets and other reforms; and
- 3) Options for a new name to replace *General Relief*.

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